

**Byron Kennard Papers**  
**A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress**



**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**  
**Washington, D.C.**  
**2023**

Contact information: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm2022086511>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms023012>

Prepared by Manuscript Division staff

Finding aid encoded by Manuscript Division staff, 2023

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Byron Kennard Papers

**Inclusive Dates:** 1937-2020

**Bulk Dates:** 1980-2014

**ID No.:** MSS86511

**Creator:** Kennard, Byron

**Extent:** 1,700 items

**Extent:** 5 containers

**Extent:** 2 linear feet

**Extent:** 129 digital files (277.16 MB)

**Language:** Collection material in English

**Location:** Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm2022086511>

**Summary:** Environmentalist and political satirist. Scripts, reports, newsletters, speeches, and ephemera related to the various organizations founded or led by Kennard and documenting his political and environmental ideology primarily from the 1980s through the 2010s.

## Acquisition Information

The papers of Byron Kennard were given to the Library of Congress by Kennard in 2022.

## Processing History

The papers of Byron Kennard were arranged and described by Katherine Madison in 2023.

Digital files were received as part of the Byron Kennard Papers on a CD, which was assigned a unique digital ID number. Use the digital ID number to request access copies of the files associated with the media. A description of the standard processes taken on all born digital records can be found in the Processing History Note: Born Digital Collection Material at <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.digital>.

## Copyright Status

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Byron Kennard in these papers and in other collections of papers in the custody of the Library of Congress has been dedicated to the public.

## Access and Restrictions

The papers of Byron Kennard are open to research. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use. Access to digital content is available onsite only in the Manuscript Reading Room and requires advanced notice. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting.

## Technical Requirements

Digital files were created in a Windows operating system, version unknown. The content is primarily image files in Windows Bitmap (.bmp) and JPEG File Interchange Format (.jpeg), and audio files in WaveForm Audio (.wav).

## Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container or digital ID number, Byron Kennard Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Biographical Note

Date	Event
1937, Dec. 12	Born, Dayton, Ohio
1959	B.A., political science, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio
1960-1965	Program officer, Division of Water Supply and Pollution Control, Public Health Service, Department of Health, Education and Welfare
1965	Assistant, White House Conference on Natural Beauty
1966-1968	Program officer, President's Council on Recreation and Natural Beauty
1968-circa 1971	Worked for the Conservation Foundation
1971-1975	Cofounder and secretary-treasurer, Public Interest Economics Center
1973-1976	Chair, National Council for the Public Assessment of Technology
circa 1975	Cofounder, Environmentalists for Full Employment
1978	National vice-chair, Sun Day
1978-circa 1987	Cofounder and artistic director, Public Interest Follies
1980	National chair, Earth Day
1982	Published <i>Nothing Can Be Done, Everything is Possible</i> . Andover, Mass.: Brick House Publishing
1988	Premiere of <i>Out of Style</i> , d.c. space, Washington, D.C.
1990	Consultant for Earth Day, Environmental Protection Agency
1990s	Senior environmental advisor, Lisboa Associates
1991	Premiere of <i>Sweet Talk</i> , Eleventh Annual Washington Theatre Festival, Washington, D.C.
1998-2012	Founder and executive director, Center for Small Business and the Environment
2014	Married Glenn Pinder
2020	Published <i>How to Trick People into Doing the Right Thing</i> . Washington, D.C.: Two Josephines Press Published <i>You Can't Fool Mother Nature: The Once and Future Triumph of Environmentalism</i> . Washington, D.C.: Two Josephines Press
2022	Published <i>Queers and Civilization: How Sexual Diversity Enlivens, Enriches, and Elevates Society</i> . Washington, D.C.: Two Josephines Press

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of Byron Kennard span the years 1937-2020, with the bulk of the material dating from 1980 to 2014. The collection documents Kennard's work as a political activist and writer, predominantly in the area of environmentalism. It includes newsletters and reports from several of the organizations Kennard founded, including the Center for Small Business and the Environment, and material documenting Kennard's early political career at The Ohio State University. The bulk of the collection consists of drafts and copies of Kennard's writings, primarily as a playwright and as a political satirist creating sketch comedy for the Washington, D.C.-based theater group the Public Interest Follies. Also included are many drafts, fragments, and notes for unfinished articles and books focusing predominantly on the topics of government, bureaucracy, and the environmental movement in the twenty-first century. Related to Kennard's role as national chair of Earth Day in 1980, the collection includes speeches, newsletters, memoranda, and pinback buttons.

## Arrangement of the Collection

This collection is arranged alphabetically by topic or material type.

## Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

**People**

Kennard, Byron.

**Organizations**

Center for Small Business and the Environment.

Public Interest Follies.

**Subjects**

Bureaucracy--United States.

Business--Environmental aspects--United States.

Earth Day.

Environmental responsibility--United States.

Environmentalism--United States.

Satire, American.

Small business--Environmental aspects--United States.

Theater--Political aspects--Washington (D.C.)

**Places**

United States--Politics and government--20th century.

**Occupations**

Environmental activists.

Satirists.

# Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	70th birthday tribute booklet, 2007
BOX 1	Articles about Kennard, 1973, 1978, undated
BOX 1	Campaign buttons, circa 1957, 1960, 1968, 1972, 1980, 1982, undated
BOX 1	Center for Small Business and the Environment, circa 2001-2009
BOX 1	Conservation Foundation, circa 1970-1979
BOX 1	Earth Day '80, 1980 (2 folders)
BOX 1	Earth Day '82, 1982
BOX 1	Earth Day '90, 1990
BOX 1	Earth Day reflections, 1988, 2020
BOX 1	Environmentalists for Full Employment newsletter, 1976
BOX 1	Lebanon High School, Lebanon, Ohio, 1955, 2007
BOX 1	Lebanon High School, Lebanon, Ohio, yearbooks, 1953, 1955 (2 folders)
BOX 2	Miscellany, 1963-1964, 1971, 1977-1989, 2009, undated
BOX 2	National Council for Public Assessment of Technology, 1974-1976
BOX 2	The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, circa 1956-1959
BOX 2	Photographs, circa 1937-circa 1959, circa 1982
BOX 2	Project and initiative proposals, 1984
BOX 2	Public Interest Follies, circa 1981-1987
BOX 2	Résumé and personal narrative, circa 1990s
BOX 2	Schumacher, E. F., 1977, undated
BOX 2	Sun Day, 1978
DF	Sun Day 25th anniversary slideshow, 2003 <b>Digital ID:</b> mss86511_277_001
BOX 2	United Nations Environment Programme international environment leadership medal, 1982
BOX 2	White House Conference on Natural Beauty, 1965-1968
BOX 2	Writings
BOX 2	Articles and essays (published)
BOX 2	1970s
BOX 2	1980s
BOX 2	1990s
BOX 2	2000s
BOX 2	2010s
BOX 2	Book proposals, 1988
BOX 2	Books
BOX 2	<i>How to Trick People into Doing the Right Thing</i> reviews, 2020
BOX 2	<i>Nothing Can Be Done, Everything is Possible</i> press, 1982-1983
BOX 2	<i>You Can't Fool Mother Nature</i> reviews, 2020
BOX 2	Fragments and drafts, 1980-1987, 2004-2014, circa 2020, undated (7 folders)

## Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 3	Fragments and drafts, 1980-1987, 2004-2014, circa 2020, undated (36 folders)
BOX 3	Manuscripts
BOX 3	"The Future of Environmentalism," 1983
BOX 4	"Natural Order," 1995-1996 (3 folders)
BOX 4	"Not Far Out, but Far In," 1982
BOX 4	Parody songs, 1983-1986, undated
BOX 4	Screenplay treatments, 1989, undated
BOX 4	Skits and sketches, 1980-1987, undated (10 folders)
BOX 5	Speeches, 1995
BOX 5	Play proposal, 1989
BOX 5	Plays
BOX 5	"Goddess on the Loose," 1993
BOX 5	<i>Out of Style</i> , 1988 (3 folders)
BOX 5	<i>Political Asylum</i> , 1986
BOX 5	"Size Matters," circa 2005 (3 folders)
BOX 5	<i>Sweet Talk</i> , 1990-1991
BOX 5	YouTube script and notes, 2011